



Columbia River Treaty Review BC Update

American Water Resource Association (WA)
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Update

- Background
- Review process
- Technical studies
- Public consultation
- First Nations consultation
- Key issues to date



Jurisdiction: Fed/Prov Context

- 1963 Canada-BC Agreement transferred to BC most of the obligations and benefits of CRT
 - “Canada shall...obtain the concurrence of BC before terminating the Treaty” (Article 4.2)
 - “Canada shall...endeavour to obtain the agreement of the US on any proposal...which Canada and BC agree is in the public interest”
- Substance of Treaty deals largely with matters of provincial jurisdiction (natural resources management, hydro facilities)

Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas leads the CRT 2014 Review

- Coordination of provincial ministries
- Collaboration with Canada
- Consultation with First Nations
- Engagement of Basin residents
- Analysis of US interests and positions

Technical Studies

- Economic, environmental, social, financial, legal and hydrological analyses
- Modeling 3 main scenarios:
 - Treaty terminate, continue , enhance
- Determining full value of coordination across range of interests



Public Engagement



- 600 km² fertile land
- Communities
- Aboriginal cultural sites
- Ecosystems, fish and wildlife
- Agriculture, forestry, transportation, tourism



Public Engagement

Phase	Dates	Objective
Education (CBT)	Fall 2011/2012	Improve understanding of Treaty
Interest Scoping	May-June 2012	Provide in-depth information on the Treaty and the review and decision making process. Facilitate discussion of values, interests.
Input on Options	November 2012	Present trade-offs associated with different decision scenarios and seek public input on potential decision options
Feedback	Spring 2013	Provide feedback to public on how input was considered

Public Engagement

- 7 community sessions in May-June 2012
- Local Government CRT Committee
- Website, blog, Twitter; soon Facebook
- Key issues:
 - Historical/footprint issues
 - Impacts from current operations
 - Opportunities to enhance environment
 - Infrastructure needs and economic development
 - Benefits to US

First Nations Consultation

- Ktunaxa , Shuswap and Okanagan First Nations
 - Identification of aboriginal rights and interests
 - Determination of potential impacts on rights
- Key issues:
 - Compensation for historical impacts
 - Ecosystem function – fish and wildlife
 - Archeological/cultural sites
 - Governance and revenue sharing



Relationship with US Entity

- Treaty proven to work well for power and flood protection
- Long history of collaboration and problem solving between Entities
- Ongoing and regular cooperation :
 - Assured Operating Plans: 6 years ahead – certainty of operation for both countries
 - Annual Operating Plan: changes made to realise additional benefits (power, fish, recreation)
 - Favourable commercial agreements - NTSA 2012
- Previous significant disputes resolved at the regional level
- Info sharing on respective CRT Review processes



Key Review issues - BC Perspective

- Founding principle – creating and sharing downstream benefits – recognized internationally
- CRT has worked well for power and flood values
- Called Upon Flood Control is undefined/uncertain
- CRT provides benefits in low flow years
- Flexibility allows for management of other values
- Ecosystems and adaptation to climate change are the new factors
- Coordination is key to responding to increasing demands



Questions?

